

Message Text

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42/55

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 CG-00 DOTE-00 OMB-01 COME-00

INT-08 FMC-04 DRC-01 /134 W
----- 032200

R 061805Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3828

INFO AMCONSUL HALIFAX

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10247

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FIRST LINE OF PARA 3 INSERTED)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EFIS, OCON, XN, PFOR, US, UK

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: ICNAF

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REF: (A) STATE 166742, (B) STATE 167508

1. AS INSTRUCTED REF (A), CHARGE TRANSMITTED ON AUGUST 24 SECRETARY'S LETTER ON ICNAF TO FOREIGN SECRETARY SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME. WE FOLLOWED UP (REF B) WITH CALL ON QUENTIN DAVIES, FCO MARINE AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, AND TWO CALLS ON PETER POOLEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY (FISHERIES) AT MINISTRY AGRICULTURE (IN ABSENCE IAN GRAHAM, UNDER-SECRETARY). CHARGE RAISED PROBLEM ON SEPTEMBER 5 DIRECTLY WITH SIR DENIS GREENHILL, PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS.

2. IN SECOND CALL ON POOLEY (SEPT 6) WE LEARNED THAT DRAFT REPLY TO SECRETARY'S LETTER HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO FCO FOR SIR ALEC'S SIGNATURE. WE ASSUME THAT LETTER WILL BE SIGNED IN DUE COURSE WITHOUT REVISION BY FCO SINCE (1) FCO GENERALLY RELIES ON MINISTRY AGRICULTURE'S ADVICE IN TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS THIS AND (2) AGRICULTURE'S RESPONSE IS "FORTHCOMING" AND THEREFORE LIKELY TO BE AGREEABLE TO FCO.

3. ALTHOUGH POOLEY COULD NOT SHOW US COPY OF LETTER, HE SAID IT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING INASMUCH AS IT WILL RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO ISSUE AND WILL INDICATE THAT SOME SORT TWO-TIER QUOTA SYSTEM WILL BE AGREEABLE TO UK, ALTHOUGH HMG NOT IRREVOCABLY COMMITTING ITSELF UNTIL IT KNOWS DETAILS OF PROPOSED QUOTA SYSTEM. UK WILL BE PRESENT AT OTTAWA MEETING WITH STRONG DELEGATION LED BY UNDERSECRETARY GRAHAM AND WHICH WILL INCLUDE BOTH SCIENTISTS AND ADMINISTRATORS. POOLEY SAID THAT UK DEL NOT PREPARING ITSELF FOR IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION OF EFFORT LIMITATION, SINCE SUBJECT COVERED THOROUGHLY AT COPENHAGEN MEETING AND SINCE UK UNDERSTANDS THAT USG WILL NOT PRESS EFFORT LIMITATION QUESTION AT OTTAWA. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST IF USG INTENDS AGAIN TO FOCUS ON EFFORT LIMITATION. IF SO, BRITISH WANT TO PREPARE THEMSELVES ADEQUATELY. IN THIS CONNECTION, BRITISH STILL HAVE STRONG RESERVATIONS ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF EFFORT REGULATION.
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4. REGARDING PARAGRAPH 8, REF (B), POOLEY SAID HMG ENTIRELY AGREEABLE TO PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION CONSERVATION MEASURES, PROVIDED IT CAN BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ICNAF CONSTITUTION. HE SUGGESTED MECHANISM OF HAVING ADJOURNMENT ICNAF MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY SEPARATE MEETING OF MEMBERS IN WHICH THEY WOULD AGREE AMONG THEMSELVES TO IMPLEMENT CONSERVATION MEASURES IN

LESS THAN SIX MONTHS' TIME. IN ANY EVENT, UK NOT INVOLVED IN HERRING AND MACKERAL FISHERY AND THEIR INTEREST THEREFORE MARGINAL.

5. OUR TALKS WITH POOLEY CONFIRMED THAT MINISTRY FUIIY UNDERSTANDS USG VIEWPOINT. BRITISH DO NOT DISPUTE FACT THAT BIOMASS IS BEING REDUCED AND THAT MEASURES MUST BE TAKEN. ONLY QUESTIONS CONCERN TYPE AND EXTENT OF MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED.

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